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| 2020 WINTER ISSUE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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Kevin Wilson; Monroe, Georgia

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COACHES AND RECORDS, Rev. 11/18/20

by

Bill Boone, IHSBHS Board Member

Editor's Note: William Boone is a Montgomery County Historian, a notable researcher, former h.s. athlete, and author of many stories and articles on Indiana High School basketball.

Here is my best list of Montgomery County coaches and their records. My main source was Ed Campbell, a former all-around athlete at Crawfordsville, avid BB researcher, Athenians' game announcer, and local sporting goods owner. Ed reconstructed game and team records from 1934 through 1971. They were later examined and either corrected or confirmed by local author and former IHSBHS board member Bob Whalen (now deceased). My additional sources

were (1) John Dale's book on Darlington schools and Montgomery County Basketball, (2) Max Barnett's history of athletics at New Ross, and (3) old newspaper clippings in my possession.

ALAMO WARRIORS

| NAME & RECORD | YEARS |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Hap Gardner (Vernon) | 1920-1921 |
| Herschel Ingersoll | 1923-1927 |
| Loren Smith | 1927-1928 |
| Everett Clore | 1928-1932 |
| Lincoln Lankford | 1933-1936 |
| W.A. Baker (11-8) | 1936-1937 |
| Loyal Marker (33-13) | 1937-1939 |
| Tom Bowerman (217-210) | 1939-1961 |
| Richard Bruner (22-59) | 1961-1965 |
| Jack Roemer (6-14) | 1965-1966 |
| Jim Platt (0-19) | 1966-1967 |

BOWERS BLACKSHIRTS

| NAME & RECORD | YEARS |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Chayce Cox | 1923-1932 |
| Joe Bundar | 1932-1936 |
| Lance Deckard (10-11) | 1936-1937 |
| Carl Hightower (5-15) | 1937-1938 |
| Piercy Masten (37-25) | 1938-1941 |
| Alex Cox (27-18) | 1941-1943 |
| Logan Moore (0-12) | 1944-1945 |
| John Bowerman (11-40) | 1945-1948 |
| Dick Bible (27-14) | 1948-1950 |
| Piercy Masten (9-10) | 1950-1951 |
| Pete Irwin (1-19) | 1951-1952 |
| Maurice Tolbert (6-14) | 1952-1953 |
| Paul Acton (12-9) | 1953-1954 |
| James Foster (12-8) | 1954-1955 |

COAL CREEK CENT. BEARCATS

| NAME & RECORD | YEARS |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Earl Pattengale (16-45) | 1953-1956 |
| Jerry Hodges (39-23) | 1956-1959 |
| Don Hipes (27-54) | 1959-1963 |
| Pat McDowell (16-26) | 1963-1965 |
| Phil Miller (53-38) | 1965-1969 |
| Ron Denhart (11-30) | 1969-1971 |

CRAWFORDSVILLE ATHENIANS

| NAME & RECORD | YEARS |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Ralph Jones (48-15) | 1903-1908 |
| Perry Stump (shared; 17-1) | 1908-1909 |
| Ward Lambert (shared; 17-1) | 1908-1909 |
| David Glascock (62-16) | 1909-1913 |
| L.J.C. Freeman (59-23) | 1913-1917 |
| Parmer Sims (10-12) | 1917-1918 |
| J.D. (Jack) Blacker (74-20) | 1918-1921 |
| L.J.C. Freeman (94-58) | 1921-1927 |
| Nolan Craver (70-27) | 1927-1931 |
| Charles Henry (27-22) | 1931-1933 |
| Carl DeBard (5-16) | 1933-1934 |
| H.T. McCullough (103-60) | 1934-1941 |
| Charlie Cummings (29-12) | 1941-1942 |
| James LaFollette (14-8) | 1942-1943 |
| Harold Anson (17-23) | 1943-1945 |
| A.L. Buckner (31-22) | 1945-1947 |
| Bill Chase (48-44) | 1947-1951 |
| Bill Nuetzel (23-23) | 1951-1953 |
| Jerry DeWitt (47-23) | 1953-1956 |
| Dick Baumgartner (79-28) | 1956-1960 |
| Tommy Thompson (8-15) | 1960-1961 |
| Dick Baumgartner (26-22) | 1961-1963 |
| Dick Haslam (88-74) | 1963-1970 |
| Paul Curtis (169-111) | 1970-1982 |
| Mike Sorrell (35-33) | 1982-1985 |
| Gary Lester (63-66) | 1985-1991 |
| Brad Acton (96-102) | 1991-2000 |
| Rush McColley (30-35) | 2000-2003 |
| Matt Luce (14-8) | 2003-2004 |
| Mike Gasaway (36-51) | 2004-2008 |
| John Blackwell (22-20) | 2008-2010 |
| David Pierce (112-117) | 2010-2020 |

DARLINGTON RED WARRIORS, INDIANS

| NAME & RECORD | YEARS |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Bill Sprow | 1907-1908 |
| Harter (Deac) Walters | 1908-1909 |
| (Unknown) | 1909-1913 |
| L.L. Martin | 1913-1915 |
| Indian Ed Miller | 1915-1923 |
| Ray Bowman | 1923-1925 |
| Ollie Gregory | 1925-1927 |
| Indian Ed Miller | 1927-1930 |
| Lester Tudor | 1930-1934 |
| James LaFollette | 1934-1935 |
| Alex Cox (45-22) | 1935-1939 |
| Herb Brammel (17-7) | 1939-1940 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Loren Joseph (16-9) | 1940-1941 |
| Bill Goff (12-10) | 1941-1942 |
| Indian Ed Miller (12-24) | 1942-1944 |
| Raymond Brown (9-9) | 1944-1945 |
| John Cash (17-5) | 1945-1946 |
| Loren Joseph (24-17) | 1946-1948 |
| Bob Gibbs (42-39) | 1948-1952 |
| Pete Irwin (33-13) | 1952-1954 |
| John Deere (6-14) | 1954-1955 |
| Al Niswonger (64-22) | 1955-1959 |
| Emerson Mutterspaugh(53-54) | 1959-64 |
| Galen Smith (49-35) | 1964-1968 |
| Dave Nicholson (46-2) | 1968-1970 |
| Gene Morrison (18-4) | 1970-1971 |

LADOGA SPARTANS, CANNERS

| NAME & RECORD | YEARS |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Unknown (4-1) | 1906-1907 |
| Unknown (13-7) | 1907-1908 |
| Unknown | 1908-1917 |
| Paul Jackson (10-13) | 1917-1918 |
| J.W. Hogg | 1918-1919 |
| Harmon Rogers | 1919-1928 |
| Floyd Neff (179-65) | 1928-1940 |
| Jerry Steiner (33-11) | 1940-1942 |
| Floyd Neff (23-57) | 1942-1947 |
| Jack Hester (159-79) | 1947-1957 |
| Vince Myer (6-14) | 1957-1958 |
| Jim Chilton (11-10) | 1958-1959 |
| Brad Lawson (33-32) | 1959-1962 |
| Bill Bays (13-9) | 1962-1963 |
| Max Price (30-75) | 1963-1968 |
| Jim Younkin (7-13) | 1968-1969 |
| Bill Bays (15-15) | 1969-1970 |
| Scott Griffey (5-16) | 1970-1971 |

LINDEN BULLDOGS

| NAME & RECORD | YEARS |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Claude Pauley | 1912-1913 |
| Smiley Irwin | 1921-1922 |
| F.M. Klayer | 1922-1926 |
| Russell Hensley (19-5) | 1926-1929 |
| Edgar Scott (14-27) | 1929-1932 |
| Harry Inskeep (4-16) | 1932-1933 |
| Dale Hankins (18-20) | 1933-1935 |
| Cliff Davis (101-61) | 1935-1942 |
| Robert Montgomery (9-10) | 1942-1943 |
| W.A.(Bill) Baker (7-11) | 1943-1944 |
| Alex Cox (71-33) | 1944-1949 |
| Ralph Bunton (76-58) | 1949-1955 |
| Jim Merritt (11-9) | 1955-1956 |
| Emerson Mutterspaugh(20-42) | 1956-59 |
| Bill Springer (35-8) | 1959-1961 |
| Don Gagnon (7-14) | 1962-1963 |
| Marvin Arnold (48-36) | 1963-1967 |
| Richard Bruner (7-15) | 1967-1968 |
| Tom Speaker (44-18) | 1968-1971 |

NEW MARKET PURPLE FLYERS

| NAME & RECORD | YEARS |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| N.C. Neal | 1908-1909 |
| Hugh Brown (years?) | 1909-1928 |
| Basil Merrell (years?) | 1909-1928 |
| Bill Herdrick (years?) | 1909-1928 |
| Jimmy Ward (12-7) | 1928-1929 |
| Russell Bowers (18-19) | 1931-1938 |
| Jack Hester (60-42) | 1938-1943 |
| Charles DeBusk (23-36) | 1943-1946 |
| Leland Melvin (106-47) | 1946-1953 |
| Joe Young (21-41) | 1953-1956 |
| Lawrence Robinson(36-19) | 1956-1959 |
| Bob Tandy (39-47) | 1959-1963 |
| Jack Hester (34-32) | 1963-1966 |
| Tom Booe (5-37) | 1966-1968 |
| Jim Petty (12-49) | 1968-1971 |

NEW RICHMOND CARDINALS

| NAME & RECORD | YEARS |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| H.A. Kesler | 1913-1914 |
| Indian Ed Miller (years?) | 1914-1928 |
| Fletcher Kerr (14-6) | 1928-1929 |
| Herman Hallett | 1929-1933 |
| Lester Olin (14-24) | 1933-1938 |
| Mort Brann (18-60) | 1938-1942 |
| (WW II, no team) | 1942-1946 |
| George Windler (31-26) | 1946-1949 |
| Frank Allhands (29-50) | 1949-1953 |

NEW ROSS BLUEJAYS

| NAME & RECORD | YEARS |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| John Ward | 1910-1916 |
| (Unknown) | 1916-1918 |
| E.O. Kirkpatrick | 1918-1921 |
| Henry Lane | 1921-1925 |
| Ralph Owens | 1925-1927 |
| Henry Lane | 1927-1928 |
| Walter Brown | 1928-1930 |
| Henry Lane | 1930-1932 |
| Chayce Cox | 1932-1935 |
| Dale Hankins (15-26) | 1935-1938 |
| David March (12-8) | 1938-1939 |
| Louis Stanley (29-17) | 1939-1941 |
| Joe Pike (27-17) | 1941-1943 |
| Gale Grimes (32-9) | 1943-1945 |
| Max Barnett (14-27) | 1945-1947 |
| John Cash (13-18) | 1947-1949 |
| Richard Pullen (2-33) | 1949-1951 |
| Paul Godsey (8-11) | 1951-1952 |
| Glen Harper (77-20) | 1952-1956 |
| John Hochstetler (8-11) | 1956-1957 |
| Tom Spear (36-7) | 1957-1959 |
| Keith Greve (57-9) | 1959-1962 |
| James Clack (21-2) | 1962-1963 |
| Bernie Burk (44-21) | 1963-1966 |
| Dave Nicholson (19-19) | 1966-1968 |
| Mike Mitchell (14-46) | 1968-1971 |

N. MONTGOMERY CHARGERS

| NAME & RECORD | YEARS |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Chuck Kriston (99-97) | 1971-1980 |
| Dwayne Rater (70-64) | 1980-1987 |
| Bob Reese (50-57) | 1987-1992 |
| Ron Henricks (9-12) | 1992-1993 |
| Dave Young (43-65) | 1993-1998 |
| Curt Allen (9-14) | 1998-1999 |
| Kurt Schlicher (11-31) | 1999-2001 |
| Scott Radeker (120-80) | 2001-2010 |
| Joel Grindle (65-86) | 2010-2016 |
| Eric Danforth (15-31) | 2016-2018 |
| Andrew Everetts (5-18) | 2018-2019 |
| Chad Arnold (13-11) | 2019-2020 |

SOUTHMONT MOUNTIES

| NAME & RECORD | YEARS |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Pat Rady (9-12) | 1971-1972 |
| Dick Bruner (15-28) | 1972-1974 |
| Rick Ford (9-33) | 1974-1976 |
| Phil Waddell (42-41) | 1976-1980 |
| Ron Henricks (89-102) | 1980-1989 |
| Roger Fleetwood (122-95) | 1989-1999 |
| Dave Williamson (71-75) | 1999-2006 |
| Jay Croft (2-19) | 2006-2007 |
| Dan Chadd (41-65) | 2007-2012 |
| Jon Sparks (50-67) | 2012-2018 |
| Jake Turner (12-27) | 2018-2019 |

WAVELAND HORNETS

| NAME & RECORD | YEARS |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Jack Blacker | 1922-1933 |
| H.O. (Red) Wright | 1932-1933 |
| Clyde Cunningham | 1933-1934 |
| Norbert (Norb) Kniesley | 1934-1935 |
| C.R.(Chauncey)Oren(14-7) | 1936-1937 |
| James LaFollette (38-65) | 1937-1942 |
| Cliff Davis (125-63) | 1942-1951 |
| Jim Hannah (37-11) | 1951-1953 |
| William Bolton (15-7) | 1953-1954 |
| Jerry Huntsman (20-4) | 1954-1955 |
| Eual McCauley (36-27) | 1955-1958 |
| Marvin Pike (15-46) | 1958-1961 |
| Bob Collins (49-35) | 1961-1965 |
| Phil Haffner (27-39) | 1965-1968 |
| Richard Bruner (40-26) | 1968-1971 |

WAYNETOWN GLADIATORS

| NAME & RECORD | YEARS |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Elmer Biddle (33-21) | 1914-1921 |
| W.N. Boyd (19-5) | 1921-1922 |
| J.W. Hogg | 1923-1924 |
| Ralph Powell (20-3) | 1924-1925 |
| Cliff Davis | 1925-1929 |
| (Unknown) | 1929-1936 |
| Ralph Capehart (102-80) | 1936-1945 |
| Russell Nale (36-31) | 1945-1948 |
| Vern Piety (17-24) | 1948-1950 |

| | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Jim Ruby (3-17) | 1950-1951 |
| Henry Sommer (12-9) | 1951-1952 |
| Cliff Davis (37-65) | 1952-1957 |
| Ken Shoup (10-30) | 1957-1959 |
| Ed Boos (13-29) | 1959-1961 |
| Tom Bowerman (47-57) | 1961-1966 |
| Fred Johnson (25-78) | 1966-1971 |

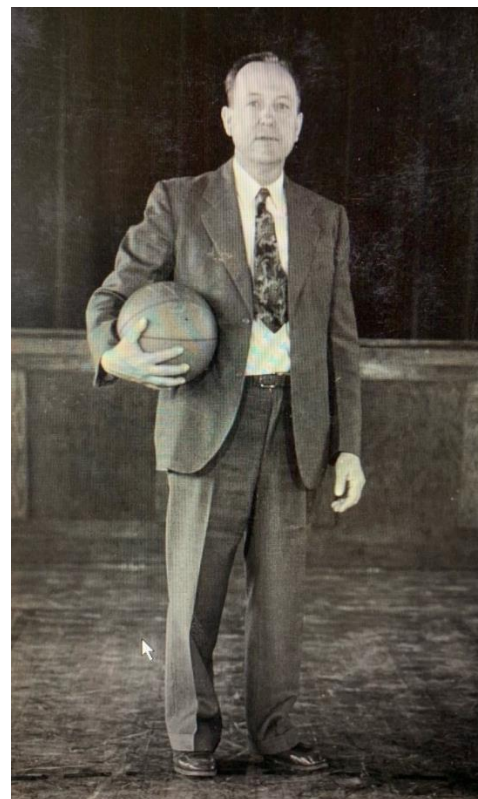
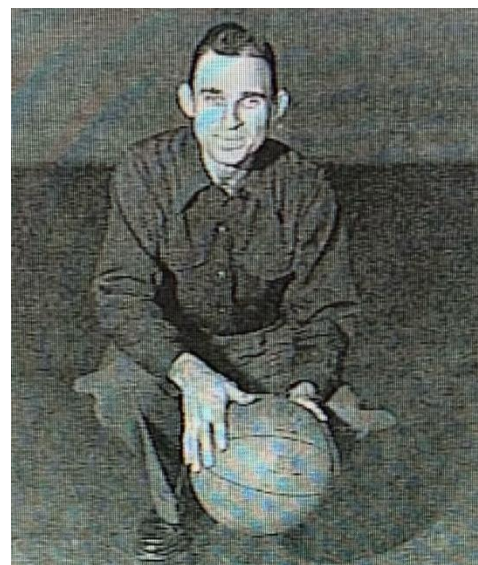
WINGATE SPARTANS

| NAME & RECORD | YEARS |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| (Unknown) | 1910-1912 |
| Jesse Wood (21-4) | 1912-1913 |
| Leonard Lehman (19-5) | 1913-1914 |
| Hugh Vandivier | 1914-1915 |
| Roy Fosbrink | 1915-1916 |
| Jack Blacker | 1916-1918 |
| (Unknown) | 1918-1919 |
| Merrill Eaton (27-3) | 1919-1920 |
| (Unknown) | 1920-1923 |
| Clifford Melton | 1923-1926 |
| Penny Ray | 1926-1931 |
| Herb Jeffries (15-8) | 1931-1932 |
| Luis French (51-48) | 1932-1937 |
| Dink Oren (58-5) | 1937-1942 |
| Tilson King (13-22) | 1942-1944 |
| Claude Ward (12-24) | 1944-1946 |
| Earl Warren (0-18) | 1946-1947 |
| Melvin Hedge (7-50) | 1947-1950 |
| Don Grimes (15-46) | 1950-1953 |

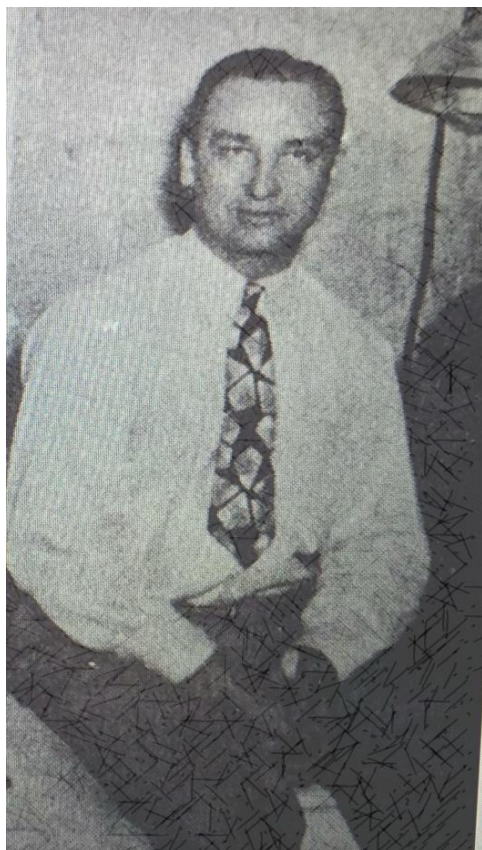
SOURCES: Ed Campbell's records corrected and confirmed by Bob Whalen's research; John Dale's book on Darlington Schools and Montgomery County Basketball; Old newspaper clippings in my possession; Max Barnett's history of athletics at New Ross and Montgomery County.

Montgomery County Coaches with 100 or more wins.

Cliff Davis 271 (incomplete)
 Tom Bowerman 264
 Harold "Jack" Hester 253
 Floyd "Doc" Neff 202
 Ralph Capehart 170
 Paul Curtis 169
 L.J. C. Freeman 155
 Alex Cox 143
 Roger Fleetwood 122
 Scott Radeker 120
 David Pierce 112
 Leland "Bill" Melvin 107
 Dick Baumgartner 105
 H.T. McCollough 103

**Cliff Davis****Tom Bowerman****Facts about some Montgomery County Coaches**

Alex Cox—Graduated from Darlington High School and Wabash College. Coached at Francesville from 1929 to 1935. Coached at Darlington from 1935 to 1939. Coached at Bowers from 1941 to 1943. Coached at Richland Twp. in 1943-44. Coached at Linden from 1944 to 1949. He won the County at Bowers in 1942 and Linden in 1948.

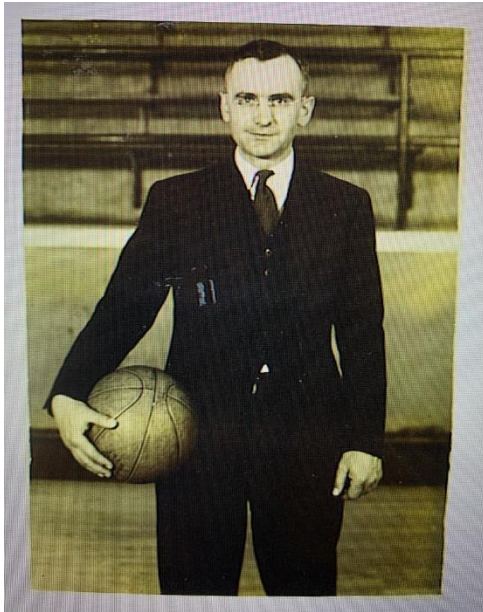


Jack Hester

Tom Bowerman—Graduated from Alamo HS in 1932 and Wabash College in 1936. Coached at Alamo for 22 years and had a record of 217—210. Has 264 wins in Montgomery County. His teams won the county tournament in 1946 and 1957. He coached at Waynetown from 1961 to 1967.

Jack Hester—Jack graduated from New Market in 1934 and Wabash College in 1938. He coached at New Market from 1938 to 1941, winning the County tourney three straight times, 1939, 1940, and 1941. Went to service in 1943, then coached at Ladoga from 1947 to 1957. Won the County in 1949 at Ladoga. Returned to New Market in 1963 and stayed until 1966, winning the County in 1966. Had a record in the county of 253-153, winning the County six times, five at New Market (1939, 1940, 1941, 1943, and 1966 and one at Ladoga in 1949).

Cliff Davis—Graduated from Alamo in 1915 and Wabash College in 1925. Had a recorded coaching career W-L record at the varsity level of 485-238 (although incomplete), with at least 271 of those recorded wins coming in Montgomery County at Linden, Waveland, and Waynetown. Won the County in 1937 at Linden, and 1950 and 1951 at Waveland. Won sectionals at Waveland 1949 and 1951. Had a record of 101-61 at Linden (7 years, 1935-1942). a record of 125-63 at Waveland (9 years, 1942 to 1951), and a record of 37-65 during his second term at Waynetown (5 years 1952-1957). Also coached at Waynetown from 1925-1929 and had a record of 8-14 in 1928-29, with the other four years unknown. He also coached at Roachdale, leading the Hawks to the state finals in 1935. That was the last year that there were sixteen teams in the state finals. No



Floyd "Doc" Neff

specific record at Roachdale, but he estimated that they won about 75% of their games. Coached one year at Rockville (1951-52). The Rox won the Parke County Tourney that year. Here is his coaching and teaching record:

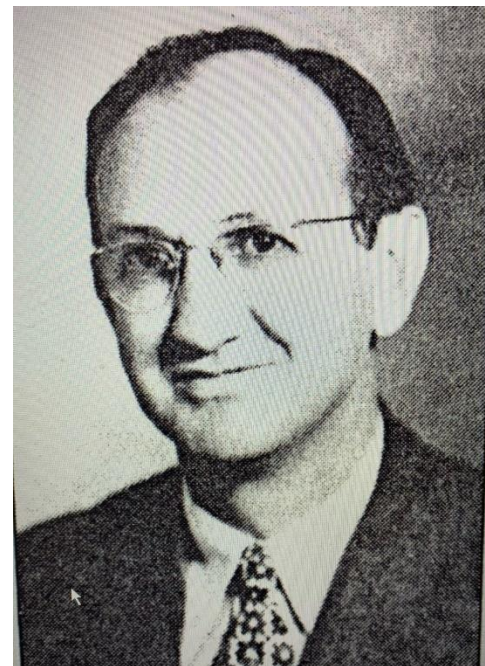
1916-17 Greenwood School (New Ross)

1917-18 Morocco

1918-23 Brook (won sectional in 1923)

1923-24 Mt. Ayr

1925-29 Waynetown (Only record discovered so far was 1928-29 when he was 7-14)



Ralph Capehart

1930-31 Burlington (total 8-14)

1931-35 Roachdale

1936-42 Linden (total 101-61)

1935-36 17-4

1936-37 21-6

1937-38 17-6

1938-39 10-14

1939-40 10-11

1940-41 18-6

1941-42 8-14

1942-51 Waveland (total 125-63)

1942-43 3-14

1943-44 10-7

1944-45 14-8

1945-46 17-4

1946-47 12-7

1947-48 4-15

1948-49 19-4

1949-50 20-3

1950-51 26-1

1951-52 Rockville (won the County Tourney)

1952-57 Waynetown 37-65 (1925-28 unknown)

1925-26 (?)
 1926-27 (?)
 1927-28 (?)
 1928-29 8-14
 1952-53 10-10
 1953-54 5-15
 1954-55 8-12
 1955-56 10-12
 1956-57 4-16

Dick Bible—Graduated from New Richmond HS in 1936. Played on the 1934 NR Sectional Champions. Went to Butler on a basketball scholarship and graduated in 1940. Taught commerce at New Market in 1940-41 then went to Romney as coach and teacher in 1941-42. Enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1942 and served until 1946. Coached at Hillsboro in 1946-47, Jamestown in 1947-48 and Bowers 1948-1950. He finished at Jackson Twp. (Clinton Co.) in 1950-51, and in '51-52 a partial season at Liberty. His daughter Alice contended that Bowers was his favorite school where he coached with his good friend John Bowerman. His hero was Maurice (Shang) Chadwick of Crawfordsville HS and Wabash College. They were distant cousins.

Paul “Pat” Malaska--He graduated from Crawfordsville in 1934 and Purdue in 1938. Won sectional at Bicknell in 1942, won sectional and regional at Martinsville in 1943, won sectional at Peru in 1947, sectional and regional in 1948, sectional again at Peru in 1949, and then sectional at Richmond in 1950. He played professional basketball after graduating from Purdue, and then began coaching high school basketball. The following is a timeline of his professional career as both a player and coach:

1937-38 Hammond Ciesar All-Stars
 1937-38 Purdue All-Stars
 1938-39 Marion Owens Illinois
 1939-40 Marion Owens Illinois

1940-42 Indianapolis Kautskys
 1940 Fairmount
 1941 Fairmount
 1942 Bicknell (sectional crown)
 1943 Martinsville (regional crown)
 1947 Peru (sectional crown)
 1948 Peru (sectional crown)
 1949 Peru (sectional crown)
 1950 Richmond (sectional crown)
 1951 Richmond
 1953 Bedford
 1959 Pine Village
 1960 Pine Village
 1962 Pine Village
 1963 Pine Village

Ralph Capehart—Graduated from Otwell HS in 1924 and Oakland City College in 1926. Also attended Central Normal College at Danville, IN. Coached baseball, basketball, and track at Waynetown from 1930 to 1945. There he won 170 varsity games including 51 straight regular season games. Won county baseball championships in 1935 and 1945, and coached undefeated basketball teams in '44 & '45 while winning the county championships and sectionals. His 1944 basketball team won the regional crown as well. Capehart's Gladiators were ranked as high as 16th in the state during the 1943-44 season.

Floyd “Doc” Neff--One of the most prominent names in the history of Ladoga basketball is the name of Floyd “Doc” Neff. Neff was born in a log cabin east of New Ross, across the road from where he lived all his life. It was in a house that was one of the old schoolhouses in Boone County. He graduated from Jamestown HS in 1922 and went to school at Central Normal School in Danville, Indiana which later became Canterbury College. At that time a person could begin teaching after a year at Normal, so Neff began teaching at Jamestown in 1923. He recalled later that he didn't have

much background in basketball as a player, but that he loved and respected the young men he coached. Neff appeared on the coaching scene in 1927 and remained for 20 years. This would have been Doc's 3rd teaching job. His first one was in Kentucky and lasted only a short time. Doc recalled that his first school was close to the Indiana-Kentucky line and that he took a bus to Kentucky to meet the trustee of the school. The school was up on a ridge, but Neff said it looked like a mountain to him. The trustee then informed him that there was no way to get there by car so he would have to ride on a mule up to the ridge. On the first day, the students were late getting to school and when they came, they were of all ages and sizes. It was a one-room school. Doc said that some of the boys were bigger than he was. He remembered that he got through the first day without incident, but then he told the trustee that he didn't think the position was for him, so he got on the bus and headed back to Indiana. That would prove to be Ladoga's gain. Doc began with a junior high team that was quite successful in 1927 and was able to compete with the high school reserve team by the end of the season. He coached for 12 years and retired from coaching with a record of 202 wins and 122 losses.

Paul Curtis--Paul Curtis was in his second year at Crawfordsville High School when the Montgomery County schools consolidated. His first job was at Brook High School. He then moved on to Manchester High School where he won three straight sectionals in 1964, 1965, and 1966. He then moved to Pike Township in Indianapolis before coming to Crawfordsville. He arrived in Crawfordsville in 1970-71 and promptly won the last sectional that would be held in Crawfordsville

until after consolidation. He would remain in Crawfordsville for 12 years, winning 169 games, six sectionals, and a regional in 1979.

L. J. C. (Lloyd James Clifford) Freeman--graduated from Crawfordsville High School in 1904 and Wabash College in 1908. He was a member of the Wabash National championship teams in 1906, 1907, and 1908. He coached and taught at Wingate before moving to Crawfordsville. Freeman had taken over the coaching duties at CHS in 1913-14 and in 1914-15, the first year of the IHSAA sectional format, led the Athenians to a 17-5 record and a sectional championship, preparing CHS for the next great run at the state championship. The 1915-16 team finished with a record of 26-4 and was conceded by most knowledgeable basketball men of the state to be the best team in Indiana. J.C. Freeman served Crawfordsville High School for 39 years as basketball coach, football coach, or principal. His career record in basketball of 153-91 places him second on the all-time win list behind Paul Curtis. His 1915-16 team was runner-up in the state with a 26-4 record. Along with Bill Sprow, Brandy was a member of the Wabash College wonder Five. He is also a member of the Wabash College Athletic Hall of Fame. After winning 19 while losing only 3 in the regular season, the Athenians breezed through the sectional which was still being played in the Armory Gymnasium. CHS defeated New Market 39-16, Pine Village 62-27, New Richmond 61-18 and defending State Champion Wingate 53-9. The Athenians continued to coast through the tourney defeating Clinton 40-17, Kokomo 36-19, and Vincennes 33-17. They then entered the final game against Lafayette as heavy favorites. The Athens City Five, however was

defeated in overtime 27-26. The upset was so unexpected and the Athenians so clearly the best team in the state that Coach Steihm of Indiana University expressed the sentiment of all present when he said, "I present this trophy to Lafayette not because they are the best team in the state but because they scored the most points in the game just played." The 1915-16 Athenians suffered defeat, but according to the editor of the annual "came up smiling, even when they lost the cup, they grinned' and bore it like men." Thereafter, they were referred to as "The State Champions without a cup." The team captain, Paul Manson, was chosen for the All-State Team at center. Monte Grimes won the forward honor, and the title of "the most versatile player in Indiana." Lester Hunt was called "the best floor guard in the State."

Roger Fleetwood—Roger Fleetwood finished his 10-year career at Southmont after the 1998-99 season with a record of 122 wins and 95 losses. Fleetwood also coached in Georgia where he won a State Championship in 2004. He coached present NBA star Lou Williams at Snellville's Gwinnett South High School. Williams was named Mr. Basketball in his junior and senior years and led Fleetwood's team to a 28-3 record in 2005. The team finished fourth that year and Williams was named the Naismith Prep Player of the year. He scored 3,883 points in his four-year career. Roger Fleetwood is now (2019) in his 42nd year of coaching. He is at Owen Valley High School where he led the Patriots to their first sectional title in 13 years defeating arch-rival Edgewood 46-33. He has a lifetime record of 545-423 which ranks him in the top ten among active coaches in Indiana.

Scott Radeker--Was the North Montgomery coach for 9 years (2001-2010) and leading NM to a record of 120-80. Along the way, they won 4 sectionals, winning 2A sectionals in 2005, 2006, and 2007 and the 3A crown in 2009. Radeker's first year was in 2001-02 when the Chargers finished with a 5-17 record.

Dick Baumgartner—Baumgartner was a 1949 graduate of LaPorte High School and lettered in basketball three times. He graduated from Indiana University in 1955 and began coaching at Roachdale High School. He coached at Crawfordsville High School from 1956 to 1960 and 1961-1963 leaving CHS with a record of 105 wins and 50 losses. He led the Athenians to the State Finals in 1958 before losing to Fort Wayne South. He then moved on Richmond High School and finished his career with a record of 350-135, winning 17 sectionals and 9 regionals, 1 semi-state and 4 North Central Conference championships. He coached 4 Indiana All-Stars.

Bill Melvin—Leland D. "Bill" Melvin coached at New Market for seven years from 1946 to 1953 and had a record of 106-47, winning the sectional in 1950. He was a 1939 graduate of Alamo High School and a 1943 graduate of Indiana State University.

Herbert Thomas McCullough--Mac McCullough graduated from Westport High School in 1913 and Indiana University in 1939(?). He began a 30-year coaching career in 1916 with stops in Clarksburg, Milroy, Owensville, Shelbyville, and Crawfordsville. Won sectional and regional at Milroy in 1920. Won sectionals at Owensville in 1925, 1926, and 1927. Won sectionals at Shelbyville in 1930 and 1934. Won sectional and regional in 1936 and

1937 at Crawfordsville, won a sectional in 1938, and both a sectional and regional in 1940. He was the athletic director and assistant principal at CHS from 1945-1962. As head coach at CHS from 1934 to 1941, his teams won 103 games and lost 60.

David Pierce—David Pierce is the current basketball coach at Crawfordsville High School. Pierce has been head coach for 10 years and has a record of 112-117.

Boxscore Readers: Please advise the IHSBHS Editor of any errors or omissions you find.

BASKETBALL ORIGINS REVISITED

by

**Roger F. Robison, IHSBHS
President**

Editor's Note: The following article on early basketball history contains parts that appeared in Dr. Robison's "Origins" article in Boxscore's 2016 Summer issue. This follow-up account is intended to complement that article.

Canadian James Naismith (1861-1939) was an 1897 graduate of McGill University where he majored in physical education (P.E.). He was also an 1890 graduate of McGill's Presbyterian Theology School. After seven years of college, 1883/4-1890, and active participation in soccer, rugby, lacrosse, and gymnastics, he declined to enter the clergy. Instead, he enrolled at the YMCA Training School in Springfield, Massachusetts, which offered two-year programs leading to certification as either a P.E. Director or a YMCA Secretary (an administrator). There were four college graduates among the 21 students enrolling for 1890/91, the first year of operation for the YMCA

School. In 1891/92 it had 42 men.

After finishing the two-year P.E. program, Naismith stayed another three years on faculty at Springfield before leaving for Denver in 1895. He worked part-time at the YMCA in Denver while attending the Gross Medical College where he graduated in 1898. He was then employed by the University of Kansas from 1898 to 1937--his only job outside of YMCA work. He never ascended the pulpit or "hung up a shingle" (practiced medicine) but he did invent basketball.

Joining Naismith in the P.E. program was Amos Alonzo Stagg (1862-1965), who had been at Yale for six years, 1884/5-1890. Stagg had attended Yale on a work-study program while pitching five baseball teams to championships of the elite big three, i.e., Yale, Harvard, and Princeton. His two post-graduate years were spent in the Yale Divinity School. While there, he also played football for Yale where he made All American in 1889. Yale and its alumnus advisor/coach Walter Camp had essentially invented American football and were selected as mythical national titlists in '83, '84, '86-88, '91, '92, '94, '00, '07 and '09 by the Helms Foundation Selection Committee, although that "Committee" was later revealed to consist of only one individual.

It was reported that Stagg "did not drink, smoke, chew, or go with girls that do." He was an active YMCA member and confidant of many Baptist luminaries such as Dwight Moody and W.R. Harper, Dean of the Yale Divinity School. In September of 1890, John D. Rockefeller offered Harper the presidency of the future Baptist-oriented University of Chicago which was to open in October of 1892. Being a Yale man, Harper knew that the top priority for a university was a football team, so he

recruited Stagg immediately. Thus, Stagg had two years to prepare and he promptly organized the first football teams at fledgling Springfield College in '90 and '91. The first year he recruited eight men from the P.E. School and three from the administrative secretaries and called them the "Stubby Christians." Figure 1 depicts rugby veteran Naismith, who played center. In 1890 they won five of eight games. For 1891, Stagg scheduled 14 games, including national powerhouses Yale (lost 0-28) and Harvard (also lost 0-34). The "Stubby Christians" went 5-8-1 overall in 1891.

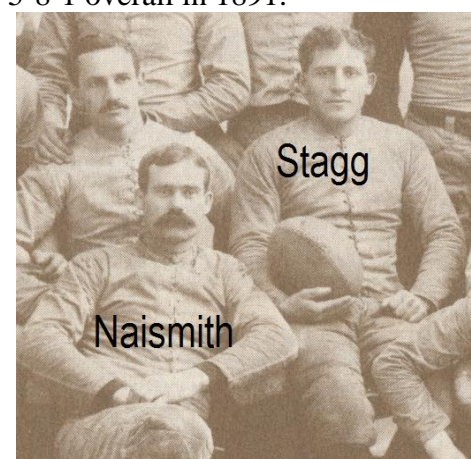


Figure 1

College grads Naismith and Stagg were made instructors by the second year. Stagg had left the Divinity School because of inadequacy as a public speaker, so the YMCA sent him on a speaking tour! Naismith was assigned a rowdy P.E. class of 18 which included six from the football team. His task was to devise a game to occupy the men between football and baseball seasons. The class was notorious for disdaining calisthenics and other gym work. Just before Christmas vacation of '91/'92 and after several failures, Naismith came up with 13 rules and several suggestions for "basket-ball." The first suggestion was that any number could play. As Naismith had 18 in the class, each team had nine men.

The first two competitive games were played in Springfield at the two YMCA gyms there, one at Armory Hill and the other at Central. They were scheduled for 12 February and 15 March of '92. The first game was a tie at 2-2, but Armory Hill won the second one 1-0. At the same time, Naismith selected the nine best players for a travel team to demonstrate the game at nearby Providence, Newport, and Albany-Troy. That nine-man travel team has now been elected to the Naismith Hall of Fame but the other nine who played in the first game have been ignored--see Table A. On 11 March, the travel team beat the faculty 5-1 with Stagg scoring the only goal for the latter. In March, Naismith also taught the teachers and girls at a Springfield grade school to play, and two years later he married player Maude E. Sherman (1870-1937).

TABLE A:
FIRST TWO BASKETBALL
TEAMS, Springfield, MA,
YMCA, Dec. 21, 1891

TRAVEL TEAM

*L.W.Archibald-

W.R.Chase-

*W.H.Davis-

E.S.Libby-

*F.Mahan-

F.G.MacDonald-

*T.D.Patton-

*E.P.Ruggles-

J.G.Thompson-

*football team players

FROM

Nova Scotia

Mass.

Mass.

Calif.

Tenn.

Nova Scotia

Quebec

Mass.

Nova Scotia

2nd TEAM OPPONENTS

F.E. Barnes

W.E. Carey

G.E. Day

B.S. French

H. Galan

E.G. Hildner (to Princeton, IN)

G.S. Ishikawa

*R.P. Kaighn (to Hamline Coll.)

G.R. Weller

*football team player

The YMCA had been founded in London in 1844 and arrived in Boston and Montreal in late 1851. In 1869 it opened its first four gyms in New York City, Washington D.C., Chicago, and San Francisco. By 1885 there were 100 gyms, and in 1900 there were 444 gyms in the 466 Associations. The only other gymnasiums were in National Guard armories. In January of '92 the YMCA house organ, the Triangle, published the rules for the new game and continued to publicize it nationwide. Megalopolis New York City had the most gyms and quickly started intramural play. Intra-mural games were also reported in Washington D.C., in Iowa City, at Geneva College, and at the Reformatory in Elmira N.Y. In April of '92, the 23rd St. YMCA defeated the Student Union YMCA 1-0 in the fourth competitive game and the first outside of Springfield.

During the second school year of basketball, 1892/93, twenty-one rules replaced the original thirteen. There were intra-city YMCA tournaments in New York, Philadelphia, and Chicago, won by Brooklyn Central, West Philadelphia, and Ravenswood, respectively. Inter-city YMCA competition saw Cincinnati claim the championship of Ohio and Kentucky; Herkimer claimed the Mohawk Valley; and West Troy claimed the upper Hudson Valley. In the Midwest, Iowa City beat Cedar Rapids with only five men used on each team.

Local YMCAs also initiated competitive games with colleges such as Vanderbilt, Toronto, Hamline (St. Paul, Minn.) and Geneva (Beaver Falls, Penn.). The latter two schools were coached by Springfield alums Kaighn and Bemis. However, as yet there were no inter-collegiate contests played. Colleges playing intra-mural games

in '92/'93 included Chicago, Yale, and Amherst (Mass.). At Vassar (Poughkeepsie), Wellesley (Boston), Smith (Mass.), Mt. Holyoke (Mass.), Mt. Union (Ohio), California-Berkeley, and Carleton (Minn.), the women had begun playing.

Stagg took over as athletic director at the University of Chicago in October of '92 and coached football, baseball and track. He began teaching basketball in the gym classes for both men and women. Teams were organized from the residence halls for intramural competition. Two years later, Stagg married teenager Stella Robertson (1875-1964) after her sophomore year. She was the women's captain from Kelly Hall.

In 1892, Indiana had 26 YMCAs with gyms in six cities: Indianapolis, Evansville, Crawfordsville, Ft. Wayne, Lafayette, and South Bend. S.C. Lighty at the Indiana State Library has reviewed 19th century digitized newspapers from Evansville and Indianapolis to find that the YMCAs there were also playing intra-mural contests in 1892/93. On 24 Nov. 1892, the Evansville Courier reported a game played between the YMCA seniors and the businessmen, but no box score was reported. In February and March of '93 they played again and seven men plus a captain were listed for each team, but no box score appeared in the paper.

At the Indianapolis YMCA, the P.E. Director was Wm. A. McCulloch (1864-1944) from 1890 to '94. In March and April, the Indianapolis News reported on four YMCA teams playing a round robin intra-mural schedule using nine-man teams. No box scores appeared. Crawfordsville has long reported that Rev. N.C. McCay (1860-1938), an 1890 Springfield YMCA graduate and the Secretary at the Crawfordsville YMCA from '90 to

'93, also started intra-mural play in the spring of '93.

During the third year of basketball, 1893/'94, a third edition of the rules was issued by Naismith. Springfield, Brooklyn Central, W. Philadelphia and Ravenswood repeated as YMCA city champs in New York, Philadelphia, and Chicago. Albany claimed the New York state title. Trenton claimed the NJ and PA titles. In Indiana, the YMCAs began inter-city competition. Evansville defeated visiting Terre Haute 26-15 in a six-man game on 27 January '94. This was prior to the well-known Crawfordsville win over visiting Lafayette, 45-21, on 16 March '94 in a nine-man team game. Jumping center for Lafayette that day was 6'3" Ray Ewry (1873-1937), an 1894 BS and 1896 MS Purdue grad. He was afterwards a professor in M.E. until 1900--see Fig. 2, Ewry. He won eight Olympic gold medals in the standing high, long, and triple jumps at the 1900, '04, and '08 games.

The newly established University of Chicago obtained a gym in '93/'94 and Stagg got Horace Butterworth to coach a varsity team which played a schedule against YMCAs and clubs for the next three years. It was probably the first college to do so. In '94, they played five YMCAs and Morgan Park Academy twice, going 6-1. Stagg would help start the Western Conference in '96, later re-named the Big Ten. He made basketball a Conference sport in '06 and Chicago shared the title in '07 and then won it outright in '08, '09, and '10. Under his guidance it became a major sport in '08 when Chicago began awarding monograms to its players. He also sponsored a National Interscholastic Tourney from 1917-30. For his contributions to the game Stagg was inducted into the Naismith Hall of

Fame in 1959. He was also named a charter member of the Football Hall of Fame in 1951.



Fig. 2. Ray Ewry, "the Human Frog"

Year four, 1894/'95, was the last year Naismith helped write the rules. The soccer ball was replaced by a basketball and the free throw was invented. It counted for one point, the same as a field goal and was to be shot from 20 feet away. The free throw restraining lane was made six feet wide. Brooklyn Central YMCA won its third straight New York City title. The Chicago Central YMCA won its city league title. This included the University of Chicago, which went 6-5-1 against non-collegiate competition. The Minnesota Aggies and Bucknell won over their local YMCA competition. The first inter-collegiate games saw the Minnesota Aggies beat Hamline twice in February, and Haverford

won over Temple in March. In Connecticut, Yale, Trinity, and Wesleyan all started intramural play and Trinity later defeated a local Hartford HS team. Wabash started intramural play at the venerable Crawfordsville YMCA, since it wouldn't get its own gym until 1917.

During the 1895/'96 season (year five), the free throw distance was shortened to 15 feet because hardly anyone could make one from 20 feet. The five-man team (on the court) was recommended but not made mandatory until '97/'98. This was the last year for Springfield YMCA to write the rules. The A.A.U. would assume control of the game and the rules in '96/'97.

Among Chicago YMCAs, Central again won its city league championship while in New York the 23rd st. YMCA ended Brooklyn's three-year hegemony. Minneapolis and St. Paul started a round robin Twin Cities League, comprised of the University of Minnesota, Hamline, Macalester, the State School of Agriculture (MN Aggies), the Minneapolis YMCA, and the National Guard. There were few intercollegiate games played outside this League. The Minneapolis Aggies were later absorbed by the Univ. of Minnesota. When the Western Conference (Big Ten) took up basketball in 1905/'06, the University of Minnesota was ready and won the first title in '06 and shared the second in '07.

A window into 19th century basketball has been provided by Pat Premo, a professor of accounting, and Phil Porretta, a computer programmer. Together, they have applied their talents to review and rank the college basketball teams playing between 1896 and 1948. They found fifteen colleges to rank in '95/'96 and thereafter ranked 20 per year. Yale would dominate the college basketball scene for several

of the first eight seasons that they studied. See Table B.

beating Penn, Wesleyan, Springfield, and splitting with Trinity. Yale preferred the seven-man team but

TABLE B PREMIO-PORRETTA (P-P) RANKINGS: '96-'03

| <i>Year</i> # 1 | # 2 | # 3 / # 4 |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 95/96 YALE: 8-5 | Minn. Aggies: 10-2 | Temple: 15-7 |
| 96/97 YALE: 11-6 | Bucknell: 4-1 | Chicago: 5-2 |
| 97/98 Mt. Union: 8-1 | Westminster: 4-2 | YALE: 11-9 |
| 98/99 YALE: 9-2 | Bloomsburg: 10-0 | Nebraska: 4-0 |
| 99/00 YALE: 8-6 | Nebraska: 5-0 | Dartmouth: 22-4-1 |
| 00/01 Bucknell: 12-1 | Purdue: 12-0 | YALE: 10-6 |
| 01/02 Minn.: 15-0 | Allegheny: 12-1 | # 4 Purdue: 10-3 |
| 02/03 Minn.: 13-0 | YALE: 15-1 | # 4 Purdue: 8-0 |

In 1896 four schools played only 7 or 8 games: # 4-Bloomsburg; #5-Chicago; #8-Iowa; and #11-MN. Eight colleges played four games or fewer: # 6-Wesleyan; #7-Savage P.E. School; #9-Bucknell; #10-Mt. Union; #12-Allegheny; #13-Central PA; #14-Washington and #15-Macalester. Chicago (5-2) played six YMCA games and Hull House. Yale played eleven YMCAs, one National Guard unit, and one pseudo-college--the Savage P.E. School. In N.Y.C., Yale fell to the 23rd St. YMCA by the score of 9-10. Yale played with five, seven or nine men on a team, depending on the opposition's preference. A review of the Yale scheduling in the 19th century reveals that their opponents were primarily YMCAs and National Guard Armories until 1901/02; See Table C.

In 1897 (year six), Indiana colleges began playing. Wabash and Butler began a yearly schedule albeit a sparse one. See Table D. The first inter-collegiate game to use only five-man teams was played on 19 February 1897, when Wabash beat visiting Purdue 23-13. There would be no further inter-collegiate competition in Indiana until 1901 when Purdue and Indiana began play. Yale was again ranked first among the colleges in 1897. Yale took on the famed Brooklyn Central YMCA and managed a split while

won over Penn 32-10 on 20 March '97 in a ten-man game. Twenty colleges were ranked by Premo-Porretta but thirteen played fewer than seven games, including #6-Notre Dame; #7-Wabash; #10-Purdue; and #14-Butler.

In 1898 Notre Dame was ranked

York City from 1897-1900. The N.Y.C. 23rd St. YMCA won the first two in '97 (season record: 15-0) and '98 (season record: 33-1). The Knickerbocker Athletic Club won in '99 and 1900. However, the Knicks were considered by some as mediocre champions and the A.A.U. moved the tournament to Chicago in 1901 to boost entries.

Yale was the perennial contender for top honors and the sons of Eli were intrepid in taking on the best of the A.A.U. teams. Yale had traveled to N.Y.C. to take on the City champ 23rd St Y as well as the Harlem YMCA in 1896, losing 9-10 and 3-8. In 1897 the team split with Brooklyn Central, the City champs of '93-'95. The team returned to N.Y.C. in 1898 and 1899 and beat the Knickerbockers 27-7 and 5-2.

TABLE C YALE VS. OPPONENTS: 1896-1903

| <i>YR</i> ^{rank} | <i>W-L</i> | YMCA teams | National Guard | Athletic Clubs | College teams |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| 95/96 ¹ | 08-5 | 6-5 | 1-0 | - | 1-0 |
| 96/97 ¹ | 11-6 | 3-4 | 2-1 | 1-0 | 5-1 |
| 97/98 ³ | 11-9 | 4-7 | 2-2 | 2-0 | 3-0 |
| 98/99 ¹ | 09-2 | 1-2 | 3-0 | 4-0 | 1-0 |
| 99/00 ¹ | 08-6 | 2-1 | 1-5 | 1-0 | 4-0 |
| 00/01 ³ | 10-6 | 2-1 | 3-4 | - | 5-1 |
| 01/02 ⁹ | 13-8 | 1-2 | 2-0 | 0-2 | 10-4 |
| 02/03 ² | 15-1 | 2-0 | 1-0 | 2-0 | 9-1 |

#17 and Rose Hulman (in Terre Haute) #20 (2-2). In 1899 Wabash was #6 and Notre Dame #12. At the turn of the century, 1899/1900, not a single Indiana college was ranked in the top 20. However, during '97/'98 and '98/'99, the Indianapolis YMCA had gone undefeated both years, defeating state and regional YMCAs as well as Butler and Wabash. This led to delusions of grandeur in '99/'00 and precipitated a game with Yale in Indianapolis.

When the A.A.U. took over control from the YMCA in '96, it wanted to hold an annual tournament. This was held in New

However, the Knicks were not considered the real A.A.U. champions in '99 and '00. The best team was thought to be the National Guard Company E, 2nd Regiment at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, called the Fondys. Therefore, as they had done in N.Y.C., the Elis sought out the Fondys to challenge them to a three-game series for the 1900 "world's championship."

This marked the first of an almost annual Yale "western" tour over the Christmas holidays to play top teams between semesters. With a few exceptions, it continued for decades. The first year the tour consisted of

seven games played between 26 December and 8 January. The Elis traveled by private Pullman car with an eight-man squad, along with trainers, managers, and their own drinking water! On the way to Wisconsin they defeated the National Guard of Washington D.C. 14-10 and then Pittsburgh 26-10. They missed train connections in Chicago, but the Wisconsin governor sent out a special train for them. In that series, the Fondys beat Yale all three times by scores of 27-18, 27-6 and 21-13. The Fondys would finish 33-4 for the year--see Fig. 3 (the Fondys).

On the way home, Yale stopped in

Indianapolis to play the local YMCA and won 33-13. Yale finished 8-6 but was 4-0 against colleges to again claim #1 in the Premo-Porretta (P-P) college rankings. Having Yale come to Indy probably did more than anything else to kick-start basketball interest in Indiana. The relatively unknown sport drew 500 fans in a city where the dominant winter sport was roller polo/hockey played on Henley roller skates made in Richmond. Despite the twenty-point loss, the YMCA was enthralled by the way Yale played. The enthusiasm promptly led to a scheduled home and away four-game series with the Fondys. The YMCA

lost all four, and in one of the rough away games had three players knocked cold. But in Indy the two home games drew a record 800 fans.

As a preliminary to the Fondys' first game in Indy on 2 March 1900, the Indianapolis (Shortridge) High School beat hapless Butler 17-16 and did it again on 13 March, 23-9. The Shortridge boys and girls had started intramural games the previous year, inspiring sophomore student Ralph Jones to buy a rulebook and schedule seven games for '99/'00. The 5'5" Jones served as coach and star player. See Table E. So far, this appears to be the first competitive high school team in Indiana with Jones in 1899 becoming the first high school coach in Indiana.

TABLE D

Won-loss Records of Indiana
Colleges Playing 1897-1901.

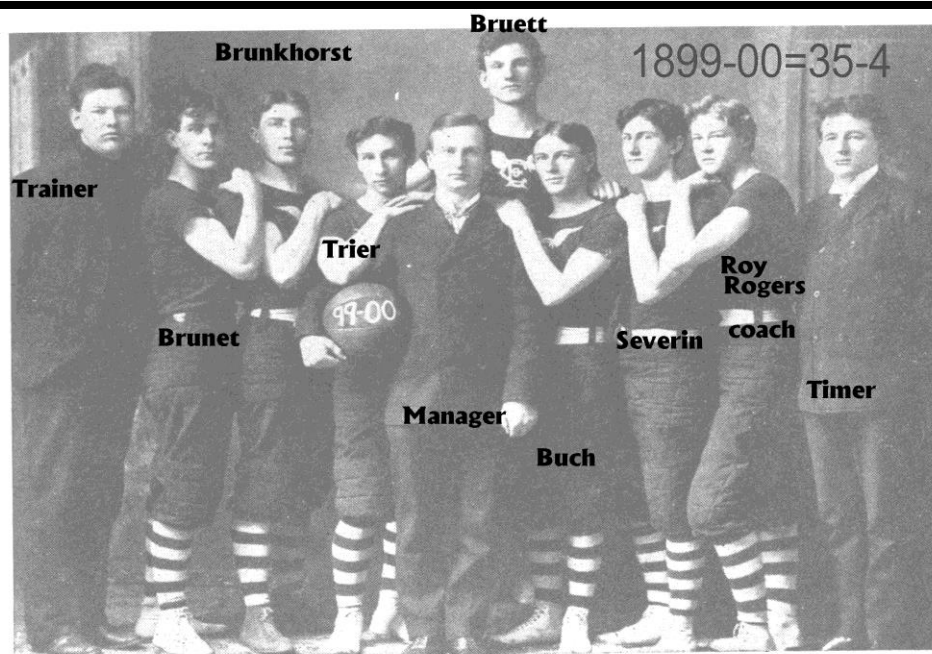
| <i>College</i> | <i>1897</i> | <i>1898</i> | <i>1899</i> | <i>1900</i> | <i>1901</i> |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Wabash | 1-0 | 0-2 | 2-2 | 1-1 | 2-10 |
| Butler | 1-1 | 2-3 | 0-2 | 2-3 | 2-4 |
| Notre Dame | 2-1 | 1-2 | 2-0 | 2-2 | 0 |
| Purdue | 1-1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12-0 |
| Indiana | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1-4 |

Table E: 1899/00 Shortridge Season (4-2)

| <i>Date</i> | <i>opponent</i> | <i>score</i> |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 12-14-99 | YMCA intermediates | 16-2 |
| 1-5-00 | YMCA seconds | 06-4 |
| 2-27-00 | YMCA first team | 13-32 |
| 2-28-00 | YMCA first team | 12-33 |
| 3-2-00 | Butler College | 17-16 |
| 3-13-00 | Butler College | 23-9 |

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Co. E, Fond du Lac, Wis., United States Basketball Champions, 1899-1900 They defeated the Yale University team three straight games at Fond du Lac. Left to right: Fog Bartlett, trainer; Brunet, Brunkhorst, Trier, Brugger, mgr.; Bruett (6 ft. 5 in.); Buch, Severin, Rogers, coach; Langlois, timer.

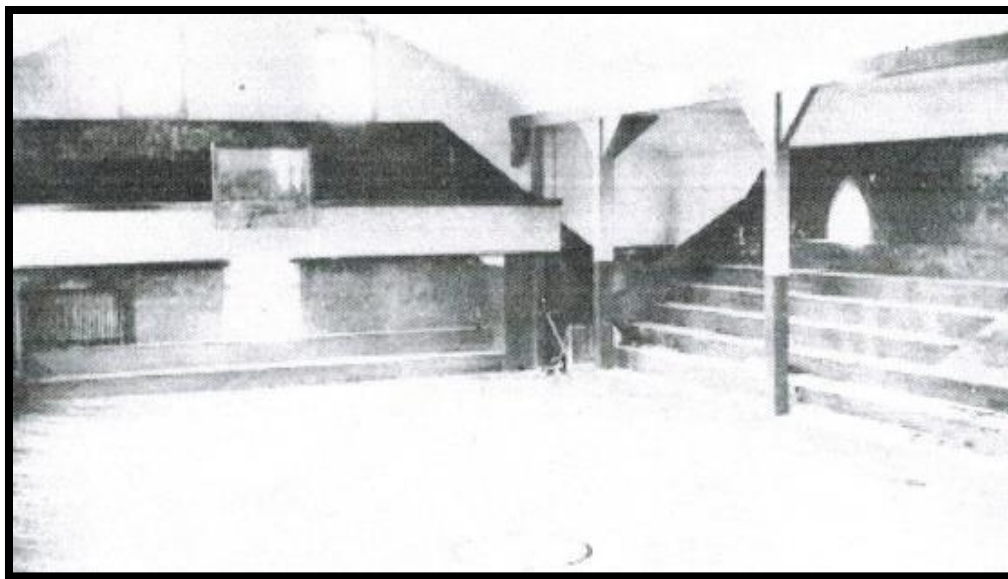
Figure 3

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THE FIRST GLASS BACKBOARDS IN INDIANA by Doug Bradley

It has been asserted that a Rochester High School yearbook preserved at the Fulton County Library should show that the new Rochester Joint (Town and Township) High School that year had plate glass backboards in use for its basketball team in 1913. I have not yet verified this assertion. However, I do have tangible evidence that Bluffton High School used them in 1919. Its 1919 school

yearbook contains a picture and accompanying article that I copied for my files. This picture shows one of the two newly installed glass backboards standing at one end of its basketball court. The photo, not of today's higher standard of resolution, nevertheless shows that it was made of glass (one can see through it.).



That finding belies several articles that have appeared in newspapers and Hoosier basketball publications that contend glass backboards were initiated in the early 1920s. One contention has been that New Castle's Goodwin YMCA Gymnasium used the first glass backboards, in games for the New Castle High basketball team. We know that the high school used H.E. Jennings Coliseum, originally constructed to accommodate roller polo, during the years 1917-24 for its sectional tournaments. That facility did not employ glass for its backboards. Hence, if the Goodwin Gym used glass for that purpose, it was only in 1924 or later. Another contention is that Franklin's Wonder Five employed the first glass backboards, in 1922, at its new gymnasium. Yet other ideas are that coaches Harry Champ in 1921, or H. T. McCullough in 1923, used glass for the first time at Owensville High

School.

Here is an excerpt from the 1919 Bluffton High Yearbook that I found, regarding its new gym and glass backboards:

OUR GYM

"Before building our present gym, the old church building on Wabash

Avenue had been the only place available for a basketball club. It was, however, a very disagreeable place, being unequipped, cold, and a long distance from the schoolhouse. The senior class of 1913, with Joseph Dailey and Kenneth Kuckel as chief boosters, determined to start a fund for a new gymnasium. Accordingly, the senior class of 1913 gave two plays, "Mr. Bob" and "Esmerelda," the returns from which were deposited in the bank as a nucleus for the gymnasium fund.'

'The class of 1916 donated enough money to buy lockers for the boys, and the 1917 class donated money for the glass back stops which have been installed. This summer it was decided that there was enough money on hand to rebuild the old gym. George Tribodet was chosen as president, F.G. Thompson as secretary, and W.D. Weisell as treasurer of the Athletic Association. As it was necessary to have a new

heating plant for the central school, the old furnace was installed in the new gymnasium. New seating arrangements were made, more than doubling the seating capacity. Shower baths were installed, dressing rooms made for both girls and boys, and a new hardwood floor put in the new basketball hall. Bluffton now has a gymnasium of which she may well be proud. We also feel deeply grateful to all those who responded so loyally in contributing to the gymnasium fund... The class of '13 started the new gym and the class of '19 finished it."

Based upon this entry in the 1919 Bluffton High School Yearbook, it appears obvious that glass backboards were in use before the 1920s, in contrast to assertions made by some authors who have addressed the subject in other publications. It is possible, pending further research, that high schools other than Bluffton's, also employed glass backboards prior to 1920. Time will tell.

IHSBHS "Lockdown" Book Sale
by
Roger F. Robison, IHSBHS
President

Stuck at home? Sick of TV reruns of 20th century Super Bowls and Final Fours? Now is the time to read some classic Indiana basketball history while providing support for our non-profit organization. All book sale net proceeds are being donated to IHSBHS to help keep its treasury healthy.

Just printed this August is the picture book "Origins of Hoosier Hysteria"--the state tourneys of 1911-20." Among the 144 pages are 20 in full color; including all ten state championship trophies. For the first time are seen the long-lost Wingate and Thorntown awards and

the beautiful gold 1920 Stagg Inter-Scholastic trophy. The state champions appear in full page photos, many of which have never been published before. Numerous runners-up are featured. Multiple scenes of the old I.U. gyms and campus as well as the two train routes into Bloomington are pictured. This beautifully illustrated book is being sold at cost plus \$5 for shipping.

For an additional \$2.00 you can get a copy of Harley Sheets' comprehensive 44-page listing of all the erstwhile revered and locally famous "Sectional Champions & their coaches of 1915-1997". Included is a listing of all the unbeaten-season teams during each of those years.

Add \$1.00 and get one of the few remaining copies of the classic "Where - In - The - World," Harley's masterpiece on all the school consolidations through 1983, with nicknames of all the existing schools AND the listing of all 649 schools lost to consolidation through 1983. Every school's top scorer up to 1984 is also noted.

Cliff Johnson's monumental work on the World War II state tournaments, with the complete rosters and season records for all the 769-776 teams playing annually 1942 thru 1945, is now available for only \$10.00 plus shipping. Accurate state tourney results are included, along with the Associated Press rankings. This 850-page compendium is indispensable for identifying this unusual group of young men who had a "last hurrah" before facing war-time military service. A summary of the war efforts and home front activities is also provided in the Introduction. Add another \$2-3.00 for Harley's books and they will be included in the shipping. See our ad on page 16 for more details on all these books

being offered for sale.

Order these books now as Christmas gifts and surprise your friends and family members. Make checks payable to IHSBHS and send to R.F. Robison, 2422 E. Rechter Road., Bloomington, 47401. Confused? Call 812-331-8018 or email hotdog@compuserve.com for any questions you may have. Enjoy the books and many thanks for supporting IHSBHS.

Book Review: "The Big Bang of Basketball"
by
Bill Boone, IHSBHS Board
Member

The Big Bang of Basketball, Birth of A Celestial Star, by A.H. Williams is a mostly pictorial book tracing the birth of basketball from its origin in Springfield, Massachusetts to its transformation into Hoosier Hysteria in the barnyards of Montgomery County in Indiana. Williams has gathered some of the most iconic pictures of the early basketball scene in Crawfordsville and surrounding towns and added material about the early pioneers of the game ranging from Ralph Jones to his protegee Ward "Piggy" Lambert and Lambert's star pupil, Johnny Wooden. Williams' impetus for the collection stemmed from the fact that his father, Howard "Tuck" Williams I, played basketball for Wingate in the late 20s and early 30s graduating in 1931.

The book links the early Crawfordsville and Wingate teams which dominated Indiana High School basketball in the early years of the new century through the Wabash College Wonder Fives which dominated college basketball in the State in the early days. The best basketball players of Montgomery County and surrounding counties gravitated to

Wabash College after high school so they could play for the legendary Ralph Jones.

There are pictures of the first Wabash College Wonder Five of 1906-08 which was undefeated and won the National Championship, Homer Stonebraker, star of the two-time Wingate High School teams which won IHSAA State championships in 1913 and 1914, and the interior and exterior of the YMCA Armory in Crawfordsville where the early games were played. There are also pictures of early Crawfordsville and Wingate high school teams, with stars and soon-to-be legends, Ward Lambert, Lon Goldsberry, Pete Thorn (the only 16 letter-man in Wabash College history), Johnny Wooden, and Williams' father, Howard.

The book has been reviewed by some of the heavyweights of Indiana basketball including Del Harris, who wrote the foreword and Gene Keady. It was even reviewed by Sports Illustrated as Alexander Wolff, senior writer commented, "We all know that Indiana is the cradle of the game, and Alan Williams' Compendium fills in hoops-history blanks I didn't know I had. From Wabash to Wingate to Wooden, it's all here—the early development of the game in the state that has loved it more fiercely than any other."

Nobody's library of Indiana basketball would be complete without this book by Alan Williams. In a short 65 pages, he added a great deal to the history of Indiana basketball. The pictures alone make the book a must-have for Indiana basketball junkies.

HALL OF FAME LAUNCHES A NEW WEBSITE

by Jared Green, HOF

Member Engagement Manager
To HOF Lifetime and Annual Members:



2020 Membership

Membership Categories

- ___Active Coach \$25
- ___Active Referee \$25
- ___Regular Member \$100
- ___Benefactor \$250
- ___Patron \$500
- ___Lifetime \$3,000 (Cumulative)

First off, thank you so much for your support of the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame through our Annual Membership Program. Your support and generosity over the years has not gone unnoticed, and it has certainly helped our tremendous organization and museum grow to what it is today.

The reason I am reaching out is because we have some exciting news in the form of a new website that just launched last week! If you have not yet checked it out, please be sure to do so at hoopshall.com. One of the features of this new website is that each of our Annual Members have their own profile/account already built in.

This will allow you to manage your annual membership renewal and other online donations directly online through your account. Furthermore, **the 20% discount for the Gift Shop that our annual members receive will be automatically applied once you are logged**

in (see image below for example).

So, how do you login and get your account setup? Simply set/reset your password using this link <https://hoopshall.com/my-account/lost-password/>. *Please keep in mind that your username will be the email that you have associated with us which is the one that this email was delivered to.* From there, you will type in your email and then you will receive a confirmation email where you will finish the process of setting up your password.

If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Kayla Kessler (kayla@hoopshall.com) and we will be happy to help. I hope you have a fantastic week and thank you again for your support of the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame!

New Book

Martinsville Sports Highlights

Curtis H. Tomak

Martinsville, Indiana, has a very fine and interesting sports history extending to national and international levels. This book includes biographies of Martinsville-associated people who are in an Indiana or national sports hall of fame. In addition, there are historical narratives of selected Martinsville High School basketball teams (including five state champions) and former Martinsville high schools and gymnasiums (including the historically significant Glenn M. Curtis Memorial Gymnasium). The book is very nicely illustrated with photographs of all of the above. It was over two years in the making and is based upon interviews and a multitude of official and other appropriate records and sources.

Hall-of-Famers

Baseball: Bill Tutterow

Basketball: Sam Alford, Tom Bowman, Jan Conner, Claude Curtis, Glenn Curtis, Mark James, Mel Payton, Lester Reynolds, Jerry Sichting, Arnold "Sally" Suddith, John Wooden

Football: Vince Burpo, Devere Fair, Mo Moriarity, Bill Siderewicz, Mark Wildman, Cecil "Zeke" Young

Golf: Julie Carmichael, Sam Carmichael, Jenny Gray, Leigh Anne Hardin, Dale Morey, Sharon Most

Track: Marshall Goss, John Koontz

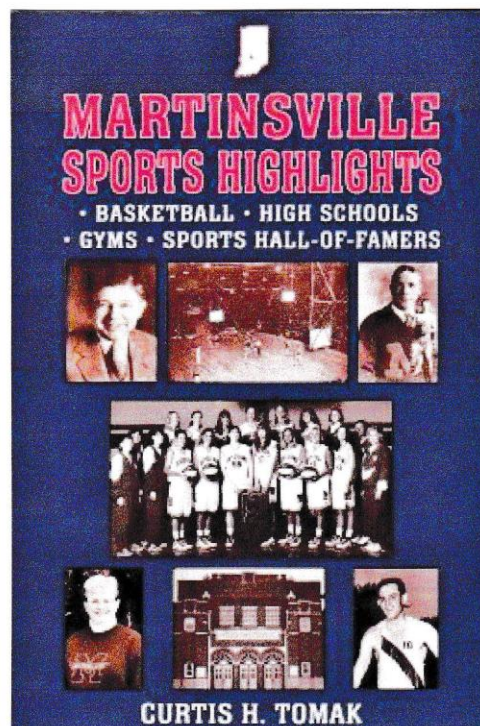
Wrestling: Bryan Bailey, Dave Errett and family, Devere Fair, John Koontz, Dick Neal and family

Basketball Teams

1910-1911 boys, 1914-1915 boys, 1918-1919 girls, 1919-1920 boys, 1924 boys state champion, 1927 boys state champion, 1929-1930 boys, 1933 boys state champion, 1937-1938 boys, 1974-1975 boys, 1997 girls state champion, 1998 girls state champion

Ordering Information

Price is \$15.00 which includes postage. Checks payable to Curtis Tomak at 50 Lewis Place, Martinsville, IN, 46151. Can contact author at 765-342-9794 or normat50@sbcglobal.net



BOOK SALES — POSTAGE INCLUDED.**Published****August****2020****20 color pages**

THE ORIGIN OF HOOSIER HYSTERIA

The I.U.—Bloomington State Tournaments

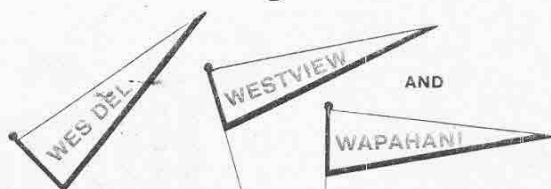
1911-1920

By Roger Robison & the Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society

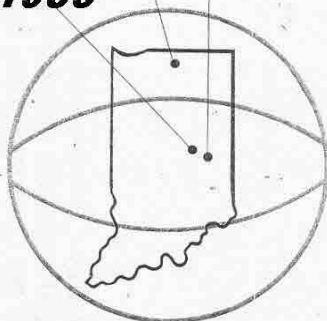
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Dedicated To:

- (1) The Indiana University Boosters Clubs of 1910-1920. **THE ORIGINATORS.**
- (2) The fraternities, social clubs, and professional-academic societies that provided free room and board for the visiting teams for nine years. **THE ENABLERS.**
- (3) William Lowe Bryan, President of Indiana University 1902-37. **THE AVID SUPPORTER.**
- (4) The obliging citizens of Bloomington and their meager restaurant and hotel entrepreneurs in the sleepy southern Indiana college town with a population of 8,800-11,600 and readily accessible only by railroads. The University was the smallest, poorest and most southern in the Big Ten Conference; 100 miles from the Mason-Dixon line and 200 miles from Appalachia. **THE HOST.**
- (5) The reluctant but eventually supportive IHSAA Board of Control who stated on 26 November of 1910 that the Tourney "plan, as proposed, was not a workable one". **THE CONTROLLERS.**

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F-4 won semi-state
R.U. runners-up
S.C. state champion

H. Sheets

BECOME AN IHSBHS MEMBER

(Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society)

Join a statewide group of sports-minded individuals who have a common interest in the history of high school basketball, Indiana's favorite sport. Membership dues are currently just \$10 per year. Established in 1994, and loosely associated with the Hall of Fame in New Castle, IHSBHS (pronounced "ish-bish") publishes four seasonal newsletters for its members, each issue usually 12 to 16 pages in content, known as Boxscore. This newsletter contains diverse items, including short stories that recount tales of former Hoosier ballplayers and their schools' teams. Members are invited, but not required, to submit their own personal stories for inclusion in Boxscore.

Membership Application

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-Mail (optional for receiving Boxscore) _____

Telephone No. (optional) _____

High School and graduation year _____

Check or money order to IHSBHS for \$10 enclosed? _____

Mail to: IHSBHS Treasurer Rocky Kenworthy, 710 E. 800 S., Clayton, IN 46118

Board of Directors: Roger Robison (Frankfort '54), Harley Sheets (Lebanon '54), Cliff Johnson (Western '54), Rocky Kenworthy (Cascade '74), Tim Puet (Valley, PA '69), Leigh Evans (Castle '86), John Ockomon (Pendleton '60), Jeff Luzadder (Dunkirk '74), Curtis Tomak (Linton '59), Kermit Paddack (Sheridan '02), Hugh Schaefer (Freelandville '61), Bill Boone (Ladoga '56).



Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame Annual Membership Program

The Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame is committed to recognizing Indiana's Basketball Legends and inspiring Indiana's basketball future.

The Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. The operation of the Hall of Fame is dependent upon attendance, gift shop sales, funds generated through activities and events, gifts and donations. The Annual Membership Program was established to allow all basketball enthusiasts to participate in the support of preserving and sharing Indiana's basketball history.

As an Annual Member of the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame you will receive the following recognition and benefits during the next year.

- name recognition on the Annual Membership display in the lobby of the museum
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Please complete the membership form and keep the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame in the GAME!

2020 Membership Form

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Please make check payable to Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame, One Hall of Fame Court, New Castle, IN 47362. The Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Your contribution is tax deductible.

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